

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OPORTO 00041 221119Z

22

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 SCCT-01 /063 W

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R 221035Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL OPORTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 785

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO, MILI

SUBJECT: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

1. MDP RALLY: COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATION DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MDP/CDE) HELD JAN 18 PLENARY MEETING IN OPORTO IN PREPARATION FOR END-OF-MONTH MDP CONGRESS AND ELECTIONS. PLENARY MOTIONS PROVIDE POSSIBLE PREVIEW OF ISSUES ON WHICH COMMUNISTS ARE LIKELY TO FOCUS DURING PRE-ELECTION PERIOD. MOTIONS INCLUDED:

- (1) RENUNCIATION OF THE "MANY ACTS OF FASCIST TERRORISM" AND DISINTEREST OR INACTION BY CIVIL AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES ALLOWING SUCH TERRORISM TO TAKE PLACE.
- (2) CONDEMNING "RIGHTIST ORIENTATION" OF VI GOVERNMENT IN FREEZING COLLECTIVE CONTRACTS, PERMITTING RAPID RISE IN COST OF LIVING, AND PAYING SHARE HOLDERS OF SEVERAL BANKS.
- (3) DISAPPROVING THE CONTINUED INTERNMENT OF 200 "REVOLUTIONARIES" IN CONNECTION WITH NOV 25 COUP ATTEMPT AND RELEASE OF DOZENS OF "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FASCISTS". CONNECTED WITH OLD REGIME.
- (4) REPROVAL OF PURGE OF LEFTISTS IN INFORMATION MEDIA AND GOVERNMENT BODIES PARTICULARLY MINISTRY OF LABOR.

COMMENT: MOTION #3 IS NONSTARTER HERE ESPECIALLY SINCE

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PAGE 02 OPORTO 00041 221119Z

RELEASE OF NOV 25 INVESTIGATION REPORT. DETENTION OF

"REVOLUTIONARIES" IS SHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORTED BY VAST MAJORITY OF NORTHERNERS. ACCORDING TO JAN 21 PRESS REPORT, 239 FORMER MEMBERS OF SALAZAR POLICE APPARATUS (PIDE/DGS) HAVE BEEN RECENTLY RELEASED. AT LEAST 1000 REMAIN PRISONERS.

2. POLITICAL VIOLENCE: WEEKEND BOMBING ATTACKS SHIFTED OUT OF OPORTO AREA WITH EXPLOSIONS IN VIANA, SANTO TIRSO AND VISEU(LISBON 0381). VIOLENCE IN VISEU INVOLVED FOUR DIFFERENT BOMBS WHICH DAMAGED TWO CARS, A HOUSE AND SHOESTORE. AT LEAST TWO TARGETS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS BELONGING TO LEFTISTS. VIANA EXPLOSION SLIGHTLY INJURED NIGHT WATCHMAN DESPITE SHOUTED WARNING TO CLEAR AREA BY UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS. PENNER

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